

METRO-EAST REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY

MAY 10, 2012 MINUTES

The Chairperson, Emil Wilson, called to order the May 12, 2012 meeting at 7:10 p.m. This meeting was held at Cannady and AuBuchon, Belleville.

PRESENT

Beverly Sweatman, Member
Emil Wilson, Chairperson
Thomas Cannady, Member
Karen Kelly, Member
Dr. Marguerite Riley, Member
Margaret Merrell, Member
Carol Neudecker, Member

STAFF PRESENT

Michael J. Pintar

ABSENT

Kingston Schmid, Vice-Chairperson
David Bollone, Member

GUESTS

INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairperson recognized that a quorum was present.

The Coordinator read the confidentiality statement that indicates that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings in order to protect the privacy of those disabled persons on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

The Chairperson asked for changes in the agenda there were none

MINUTES

The members reviewed the stated minutes of the April 12, 2012 HRA meeting and considered them for approval. Members present agreed to approve the minutes based on a motion by Karen Kelly, seconded by Carol Neudecker.

COMMUNICATIONS: The Coordinator shared information regarding Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission training set for June 13, 2012 in Springfield. An agenda is available upon request.

NEW BUSINESS:

12-070-9029 - An agency initiated eviction without having sought services for a person who is a hoarder. The 79 year-old renter has other mental issues and states that she is not opposed to having an agency help her with issues that cause her to be non compliant with her lease. At the April meeting, the Coordinator was directed to gather more information. According to that information, the apartment was cleaned and the eviction has been put on hold. Upon a motion by Carol Neudecker, seconded by Beverly Sweatman, members voted not to accept the case for investigation.

12-070-9030 - on 3/21/12 a consumer was attacked by another patient and the next day the team pulled her pass although she did not do anything wrong. Since that time, the consumer requested counseling because she had worked so hard for so long to achieve a high level security pass. The consumer was told that there was no social worker available. Upon a motion by Marguerite Riley, seconded by Karen Kelly, members voted for case opening.

12-070-9031 - An agency denies a consumer the opportunity to hire the personal attendant of his choice. Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Margaret Merrell, members voted for case opening.

12-070-9032 - a consumer alleges she is denied visitation; wont allow personal cosmetics; don't allow attorney's phone calls; she is allergic to pork and the facility continues to offer her pork and her Social Worker refused to meet with her on a regular basis. Upon a motion by Emil Wilson, seconded by Margaret Merrell members voted for case opening.

12-070-9033 - a person presented at an emergency room after a domestic argument because the male subject had scratched his wrists while locked in the bathroom. That evening the E.R. administered a large dose of Risperdal that knocked the patient out. The next day, the patient asked to be released stating he agreed to outpatient treatment because he had to work the following day and his employment would be in jeopardy if he could not work. The patient and his family feel they were misled when that Physician told them there was no choice in the matter and that if the patient did not sign an agreement for voluntary admission, the hospital would pursue and achieve forced involuntary admission. The family was led to believe that the Psychiatrist would see him after his admission and that the patient might have an opportunity for discharge that night. Also, the family is concerned that the hospital is using heavy sedation even though the patient has shown no signs of danger to self or others and he has had kidney stones and kidney related problems. Kidney issues are resurfacing and the condition with his kidney are not being address. Upon a motion by Karen Kelly, seconded by Marguerite Riley, members voted to not accept the case for investigation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 721 of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act, upon a motion by Carol Neudecker, seconded by Thomas Cannady, the Authority went into closed session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss case progress and reports of findings.

Case Progress Reports:

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Case progress reports

12-070-9005 - Alton Mental Health Center - guardian access

12-070-9010 - Alton Mental Health Center - medical treatment & not allowed to rest

12-070-9011 - Alton Mental Health Center - psychotropic medication

12-070-9013 - Alton Mental Health Center - accounting

12-070-9016 - Madison County Housing - a consumer was evicted & the landlord refused to return property

12-070-9018 - Alton Mental Health Center - forced a blood test

12-070-9023 - Warren Murray Center - DNR

12-070-9024 - Warren Murray Center - treatment team

12-070-9026 - Alton Mental Health Center - phones

B. Reports of Findings:

12-050-9017 - Alton Mental Health Center - over-medicated.

C. Case Closures:

11-070-9033 - Alton Mental Health Center - computer/personal property

12-070-9007 - Alton Mental Health Center -laptop

12-070-9008 - Alton Mental Health Center - OIG property

12-070-9021 - Central Elementary School District 106 - IEP

The HRA returned to open session at 8:15 p.m. upon a motion by Carol Neudecker, seconded by Beverly Sweatman.

Upon returning to open session:

B. Reports of findings:

12-050-9017 - Alton Mental Health Center - over-medicated. Upon a motion by Marguerite Riley, seconded by Karen Kelly, members voted to accept the report of findings as written pending administrative approval.

C. Case Closures:

11-070-9033 - Alton Mental Health Center - Upon a motion by Carol Neudecker, seconded by Beverly Sweatman, members voted for case closure.

12-070-9007 - Alton Mental Health Center - computers and personal property. Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Beverly Sweatman, members voted to table case closure pending the Center's response.

12-070-9008 - Alton Mental Health Center - OIG property - Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Beverly Sweatman, members voted to table case closure pending the Center's response.

12-070-9021 - Central Elementary School - Upon a motion by Karen Kelly, seconded by Beverly Sweatman, members present agreed to table case closure.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:

The next meeting will be June 14, 2012 at Thomas Cannady's Law Office 1931 West Main Street, Belleville

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Dr. Marguerite Riley, Recording Secretary